

"Santa Ana ranks first in the nation among big cities for the largest portion of Spanish speakers at home – 74%."

Orange County is growing increasingly diverse in population. According to the 2000 census, white non-Hispanic residents comprise 51.3% of the total population, Hispanics 30.8%, Asian and Pacific Islanders 13.5%, African Americans 1.5%, and other 2.9%.

According to the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, Santa Ana ranks first in the nation

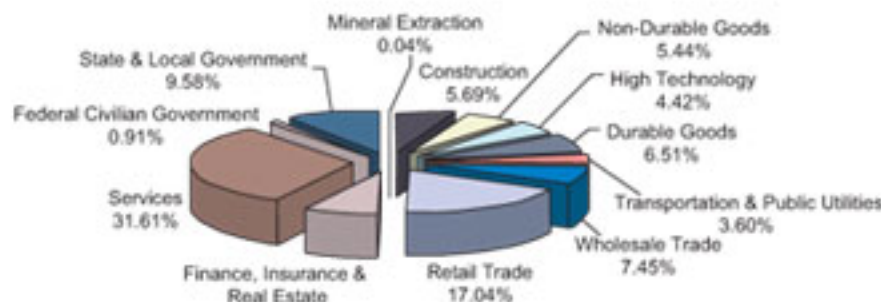
among big cities for the largest portion of Spanish speakers at home, nearly 74%. The City of Anaheim ranks fourth in the nation with 43%. The fastest growing age segment of County's population is senior citizens. Currently, the senior population is estimated to be about 400,000; this number is expected to increase to 600,000 by 2004. The growth in the senior population will continue to impact such areas as transportation, delivery of medical services, housing, entertainment and job turnover.

The continuing growth in the "echo boom" generation also presents a challenge. The echo boom generation is comprised of the children and grandchildren of the baby boomers – the generation born between 1946 and 1964. Along with immigrant children, the echo boom is increasing the need for pre-school and school facilities and eventually to some extent the need for juvenile and adult correctional facilities and programs.

Orange County has one of the most diversified economies in the nation. No single sector accounts for more than one-third of the County's economic labor market. The labor force is approximately 1.46 million with the greatest employment sectors in manufacturing 16%, trade 23% and services 28%. Roughly ten-percent of the labor market is self-employed. Orange County fosters an entrepreneurial environment that accounts for the large number of small business as well as a large number of well-known companies that are based in the County such as Allergan Inc., Broadcom Corp., Conexant Systems Inc., Fluor Corp., and Oakley Inc.



2001 Employment Mix



Source: Chapman University Economic & Business Review, June 2001

The following list of Orange County's top employers demonstrates the diversity of industries such as: defense, education, government, health-care, recreation and tourism, retail and technology.

County of Orange Top 20 Major Employers

Employer Name	Number of Employees
County of Orange	15,774
Walt Disney Company	15,354
University of California, Irvine	14,130
Boeing Company	12,159
Albertsons, Incorporated	9,000
St. Joseph Health System	7,354
Tenet Healthcare Corporation	6,735
Tricon Global Restaurants, Incorporated	6,630
SBC Communications, Inc. (Pacific Bell)	5,773
Bank of America Corporation	5,000
Marriott International, Incorporated	4,939
Target Corporation	4,572
The Kroger Company (Ralphs, Food 4 Less)	4,397
Pacificare Health Systems, Incorporated	4,341
Verizon Communications	4,137
Edison International	4,132
California State University, Fullerton	4,070
Home Depot, Incorporated	4,009
Memorial Health Services	3,757
Kaiser Permanente	3,200

Source: Orange County Business Council, 2001
County of Orange Employee Number: The Orange County Demographic and Economic Overview